

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**SB 1774 - HB 1712**

March 31, 2003

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Allows any candidate running for local public office in this state to post a non-negative political campaign statement, not exceeding 500 words, on either the Secretary of State's web site and/or a county election commission web site, if available. The candidate would submit such statement to the state or county election commission, if applicable, within 120 to 75 days prior to the election. The candidate would provide notice to any other candidate and notify the State Election Commission if the candidate intends to post a statement on any county election commission web site. The State Election Commission would notify the candidate if the statement submitted would be considered negative. Such candidate would then have the opportunity to resubmit a statement. All decisions regarding the eligibility of any statement would be made no later than 45 days prior to the election.

The State Election Commission is authorized to charge a fee of up to \$500 for such posting in order to cover expenses of the commission related to the posting.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures - Less Than \$50,000 Every Other Year**  
**Increase State Revenues - \$37,500 - \$75,000 Every Other Year**  
**Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Not Significant Every Other Year**

Estimate based on the following:

- Since all statements would need to be checked for content and prepared for posting, this would require additional staffing in the Secretary of State's Office to deal with the new requirements.
- An estimated 150 candidates would opt to have a statement posted.
- Assumes the state will have the sole responsibility of reviewing and posting the statements on the Secretary of State's web site.
- Assumes that counties will only be required to provide a web link to the state web site if they have a county web site.
- Assumes that the majority of elections are held every two years.
- If the fee charged is \$250, total revenue = \$38,000  
If the fee charged is \$500, total revenue = \$75,000

**CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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